KEEPING THE PROMISES OF THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago the American people made a choice. It was a choice between decades of a tax-and-spend Congress that believed America prospered when Washington had more of what people earn and a new Republican majority that believed that America prospers when the American people are able to keep more of what they earn.

That change has made all the difference in America today, welfare reform, the advances on traditional moral values. And every single year of the Republican majority, including again later today, this Republican majority has cut taxes on working families, small businesses and family farms.

The choice 10 years ago was clear. Another choice is just around the corner, between a party that believes that America prospers when government prospers and another party who believes that when the American people have more of what they earn to keep, that our Nation prospers as well.

Join us today as we cut taxes again and keep the promises of the Contract With America.

THE NEED TO APPOINT HOUSE CONFEREES TO DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION BILL

(Mrs. DAVIS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to express my concern about House and Senate conferencing on the Defense authorization bill for fiscal year 2005. I am concerned that the House has not appointed any conferees to the bill.

Mr. Speaker, the House passed the Defense Authorization Bill on May 20 of 2004, and the Senate passed their version on June 23. Fast forward 3 months to today. It is now September 23. Next week marks the end of the fiscal year, and the House will adjourn for the elections in less than a month.

I would also like to remind all of us, Mr. Speaker, that the House and Senate finished the conference report agreement on the fiscal year Defense appropriations bill in July.

The reason for my concern should be obvious to all of us. Our country is at war. Large numbers of brave men and women remain in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan. I recognize there are contentious issues in both of the versions of the bill, but confronting these types of issues is our job, and we are quickly running out of time.

The bill is a life-and-death matter. It impacts service members' safety, their readiness and personal and financial health. More than anyone else, they

have earned the right to a government that is a responsible steward of their safety and their well-being.

215TH BIRTHDAY OF THE U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE

(Mr. BOOZMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the oldest Federal law enforcement agency in the United States, the U.S. Marshals Service. Tomorrow, they will be celebrating their 215th birthday.

I can tell my colleagues that the Marshals Service has enriched the history of the Third Congressional District of Arkansas. We all grew up hearing the stories of the brave marshals as they brought the most dangerous outlaws in the country to justice. We have seen the movies, read the books and all tried to copy their noble behavior.

Since 1789, they have admirably protected and carried out the orders of the Federal court system. From taming the wild West to capturing those who threaten our freedom today, the Marshals Service has consistently upheld their commitment and dedication to their country. I am honored to have the opportunity to acknowledge and thank them for their outstanding service to the United States of America.

BE AFRAID

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today, we had hoped to hear a realistic assessment of Iraq, but unfortunately, although the voice was different, the words were the same. We just heard the administration's Iraqi administrator say what the administration says over and over again: Be afraid.

With no plan to win the peace and no grasp on the magnitude of the chaos in Iraq, the administration relies on fear and photo ops to divert attention, trying to get Americans to forget the deception, incompetence and outright failure this administration used to turn the country upside down. They cannot stop what Americans see and read, so they try to preempt it, using the two words that define this administration: Be afraid.

Be afraid is their answer to the economy, the war, the deficit, the people without health care and Iraq in complete chaos.

Be afraid is what they say, but what they mean is, be afraid of them. Do not forget to vote on November 2.

REPUBLICAN PARTY 150TH ANNI-VERSARY CELEBRATORY FREE-DOM CALENDAR

(Mr. COX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, this is the 150th anniversary of the Republican Party. Over a century and a half from the abolition of slavery to the establishment of women's rights to the freeing of millions of people in the Soviet Union, Afghanistan and in Iraq, the Republican Party has been the most effective political organization in the history of the world in advancing the cause of freedom.

So that all of us can learn more about the achievements of this fundamentally American institution, the House Republican Policy Committee has published the 2005 Republican Freedom Calendar. Each day, a civil rights milestone in the history of the Republican Party is listed. Yesterday was the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. President Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation sparked howls of protests from Democrats in Congress and across the country, but it was based on legislation passed in this Congress just 2 months before. Every single Republican voted for freeing the slaves, and every single Democrat voted against it.

Mr. Speaker, this is just one of 365 civil rights firsts that can be found in the Republican Freedom Calendar available at policy.house.gov.

WIND PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT EXTENSION

(Mr. STENHOLM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, as a long-time independent voice of the people of west Texas, I rise to urge my colleagues in Congress to move forward with meaningful reforms to our national energy policy.

Driving across the long west Texas highways, one cannot help but notice the towering wind farms that have cropped up in the area I represent.

□ 1130

Unfortunately, further wind energy development is completely halted because Congress has yet to extend the production tax credit for renewable sources of energy.

We had the opportunity to extend the credits with the 2002 energy bill and now the latest energy bill has stalled in Congress. Because of unwillingness to move back to the negotiating table, my constituents are forced to forgo further wind energy development in their counties. This means fewer jobs are created in the area. Counties and schools have to give up additional tax revenue and the U.S. is put further behind in our goal to produce more renewable energy.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for folks in Congress to get serious about energy in America and immediately pass the extension for the Wind Energy Production Tax Credit. It is the economically